

abbey of La Cava and some of its tenants is attended by barons, counts, bishops, and abbots.

It was by the justiciar that the baillis and local judges were controlled. The latter represent a jurisdiction half popular, half governmental. The greater towns either appoint or control the appointment of the *judices*, and even where the judge is a royal official (*judex regalis*) and nominee of the Crown he is assisted by a jury of *boni homines*, influential people of the vicinity, who are often found to be Moslems. The duties of the judge, whether he holds a lord's *curia* or a royal court, or presides in the tribunals of a self-governing town, are to decide cases of property, to witness sales and gifts, to dispose of small civil cases. Among the Moslems a *cadi* takes the place of the Christian *judex*.

The same Assise which forbids subjects to take the rank of knighthood unless their ancestry is knightly, forbids any man to become a judge unless his parent has held that office; an injunction which implies that Roger II. wished to create an official no less than a knightly caste, but it is in sympathy with the policy pursued by the *cata-pans* of pre-Norman days in favouring the official

classes of Apulia,

The power of the Sicilian Crown will
be best
shown by outlining the relations
towards the King
of the Church, the nobles, and the
towns, that
is the greater forces in the State, and
under them
the common subjects.